



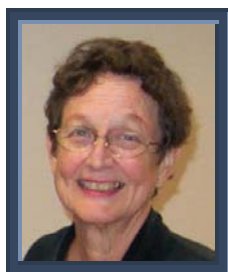
Pacific Basin Current Developments



Message from the Director...

Field work is in full swing in the Basin. We have many dedicated staff working on projects to implement good conservation practices that maintain and improve island resources. I envision a highly productive year and wish everyone success at the important jobs we do.

Joan B. Perry
Director, Pacific Basin Area



2003 NACD Auxiliary/NACD Photo Contest Winner

"Colocasia Esculenta – Taro Leaf"
First Place, Trees and Plants Category



Congratulations to Mr. Anthony Ingersoll, Agronomist, Pacific Basin Area, for winning two awards in the 2003 NACD Auxiliary/NACD Photo Contest. Winning photographs met the standards of being well-framed, clear, and properly exposed, in addition to demonstrating imagination and creativity. Judges awarded one first place award and two honorable mentions in each of six categories. The exception was the Conservation

category, in which there were three honorable mentions. Mr. Ingersoll's two winning photographs were added to an archive of photographs from all over the United States. NACD uses these photographs in its outreach efforts to promote the cause of conservation. Winning photographs were displayed at the NACD Annual meeting, which took place February 1-5, 2004 in in Hawaii.

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"Farmer in American Samoa Harvesting His Crop"
Honorable Mention, Conservation Photograph

Marianas Moorhen

By Kurencio Ngowakl, Program Specialist
Pacific Basin Area Office

Natural Resource Conservation Service
Tackles Issue Head-on and WHIPS into Action!



Common Moorhen - Cameron Prairie NWR Visitor Center

Resource Concern of the Marianas Moorhen

Success, as defined by some people is measured by the achievement, legacy, or long-term outcome of a plan. Having said that, by what standard of measurement are stewards of the land deemed successful. One of the best indicators to use as a sign of successful land stewardship is the diversity of the wildlife. The Marianas Moorhen, scientific name *Gallinula chloropus guami*, a subspecies *Gallinula chloropus* endemic to Guam and the Mariana Islands, is a good barometer in assessing the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) success in effectively delivering Farm Bill programs at the local level. How so? The answer lies in the diet of "this duck-like bird, called 'pulattat' in Chamoru" (native language spoken in Guam). The Marianas Moorhen's diet consists mainly of plants, insects and snails. Without a safe and clean environment conducive to a habitat that fosters the bird's diet, how can the endangered Marianas Moorhen species survive? Such was the case with the natural habitat of the Marianas Moorhen at Masso Valley. No doubt, the future of this duck-like bird endeared by the local people for its unique qualities and resiliency looked bleak indeed. Without any outside intervention, such was the dim future of the Marianas Moorhen.

Through no fault of their own, the Marianas Moorhen population in the Masso Valley Watershed area was on the brink of extinction due to habitat environmental degradation as a result of upland soil erosion to the pond. Armed with the goal of restoring the Moorhen's habitat with the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) program in hand, former NRCS Forester Robert Wescom, now the Natural Resources Manager, US Navy, COMNAVMAR, Guam, approached the landowners with alternatives that would address the immediate resource concerns. Aggressive upland ownership and management of 6.9 acres of savannah grassland would in time address the resource concerns of soil erosion and water quality, with respects to the well-being of the endangered Marianas Moorhen. In hopes of improving the wildlife habitat for the Marianas Moorhen, the Department of Agriculture (DOA) started working with the US Navy, Fish and Wildlife in the permitting process of upland tree and shrub establishment to stabilize the area and reduce the sediment erosion into the pond. A plan of installing adequate ground cover was followed by initial plantings of native trees and shrubs after the onset of rainy season in 2001. It has been two years now since the Guam NRCS "WHIP"ed in to address the habitat of the Marianas Moorhen in Masso Valley, Guam. Was the implementation of the WHIP program successful? Again, success as defined by some is measured by the achievement, legacy, or the long-term outcome of a plan. The abundance and availability of food at the foothill of Masso Valley lends itself to a thriving Moorhen population and answers to the success of the WHIP program. If you are ever driving in the central part of the island of Guam and you see what appears to be a bird, but walks like a duck, rest assured that the stewards of the land here in Guam are working hard for the survival of the species.

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Pacific Basin Area has received Financial Assistance (FA) funds for the implementation of PL-566 projects since 1995. Watershed Projects receiving FA are; Guam's Talofofo, American Samoa's Aua, and Saipan's Kagman. The Pacific Basin requested \$1.7 million of FA for the Kagman project in 2003; however, no PL-566 FA was allocated to the Pacific Basin in 2003. Kagman is the largest watershed project in the Pacific Basin.

**Impact of No Pacific Basin
PL-566 Financial Assistance Funds**
*By Jeffrey Wheaton, State Conservation Engineer
Pacific Basin Area Office*

Kagman has several features yet to be installed. The \$1.7 million 2003 FA request was to fund the remainder of waterway work (flood prevention). This work will realize all flood protection benefits listed in the plan. A 70-million-gallon reservoir, pump and pipeline was planned for contracting (estimated at 4 million dollars, 50% Cost Shared) in FY 2005. Their installation, to be completed in 2006, would realize all planned irrigation and water conservation benefits. The benefit cost ratio is 1.3 for the Kagman project. The project captures rainy season freshwater runoff (the limiting resource on Saipan) for use as irrigation during the dry season relieving demand for municipal water, and enhancing food security by making the island more self-sufficient in food production.

Tracked costs for Saipan's Kagman Project from 1990 to present show the Sponsors and USDA NRCS will have spent \$875,158.61 (local costs, in-kind, land rights, O&M) and \$3.45 Million (planning, design, and construction; both FA and Technical Assistance, TA) for the project respectively. Components installed so far are wetland mitigation, large irrigation distribution system with a

100,000 gallon regulating reservoir (concrete tank), supplemental wells and a large channel and sediment basin (all local construction contracts). A water-control structure and other waterways are being built under a Federal construction contract at this time. Implementation has been continuous over these years.

The consequences of not completing the project are:

1. Total planned benefits are not realized. Flooding of Kagman road will still happen. Farmers will not have reliable irrigation water supply.
2. Some installed features will not be fully utilized. The irrigation distribution system will be oversized as the supplemental wells will be the only source of water for them. The irrigation regulating reservoir will not be used. Outlet channels and the sediment basin for flood protection are oversized because not all floodwater planned for them will be captured. The truncated channels will control less of the watershed.
3. The unplanned draw from the sole source aquifer will create problems for water supply to

the nearby Chamorro homesteads in Kagman I, II, III, and IV.

4. NRCS credibility will suffer. Future NRCS activities to protect and wisely utilize the resources of the islands will be tainted with our failure to follow through.
5. Planned construction in a wetland area, already mitigated, will not take place.
6. NRCS initiation of installation and the consistent message that the Agency will follow through to the conclusion will be at odds with our actions. There may be Agency liability for half-installing the project. Local funds were wasted on the tank, the irrigation distribution system, and the wetland mitigation activities.

The Sponsors have maintained all installed components. They have also contributed construction funds and contract administration services for the local construction contracts. The Saipan & Northern Islands SWCD has vigorously defended the agricultural land benefited by the project from conversion to non-agricultural uses.

The islands are historically underserved by USDA NRCS. The Kagman project and other recent activities are steps toward equitable treatment. The current trend to fund by legislative earmarks leaves our clientele at a disadvantage. Our elected representatives to Congress have no floor vote.



Growing Corn in the CNMI

By Ken Kramer, Soil Conservationist
CNMI Field Office



There are several factors to consider in growing this new-world vegetable in the CNMI. First, the corn variety must be decided upon. If selling, what does the market demand? For personal consumption, what do you demand? Do you want a sweet corn or a field corn? The old standard for sweet corn has been Silver Queen; however, due to increasing susceptibility to rust, it is being replaced by newer

strains developed in Hawaii with rust resistance. In Hawaii, Dr. James Brewbaker from the University of Hawaii has been developing better corn for decades. Some of these new strains of corn have made their way to Saipan. The new rust resistant standard for sweet corn, Hawaiian Supersweet #9, is available through:

Hawaii Foundation Seed Facility
Waimanalo, HI 96795
Phone: (808) 259-8685

Following is a list of corn varieties being tested at NMC:

VARIETY NAME	HYBRID-?	SEED	HUSK
Hawaiian Supersweet #9 Silver	Open Pollinated	White	Green
Hawaiian Supersweet #10	Triple Cross Hybrid	Yellow	Green
Hawaii 1039 Silage (field corn)	Open Pollinated	Yellow	Green
Kalakoa Supersweet	Open Pollinated	White & Purple	Purple
Sweet Sarah C3	Single Cross Hybrid	Yellow	Green
Silver Queen	Hybrid	White	Green

Please visit the NMC website for more information:

<http://www.nmcnet.edu/community.cfm/compass/crees/are/crops/>

The latest strain, recommended for the CNMI, is Hawaiian Supersweet #10; it has finished the testing stage and is being grown for seed production purposes in Hawaii. Call (808) 259-8685 to find out when it will be available. An interesting new sweet corn variety is Kalakoa that has purple ears.

Another critical factor is plant spacing. Many people, perhaps out of greed, plant corn seeds

too close together hoping to get a better yield. They end up with four-inch ears of corn on stunted plants. Corn is wind-pollinated and is better off planted in blocks – a single row will not pollinate very well. A better system is to plant paired rows of corn, spaced in a double staggered row: 12" apart in the row, 24" between the rows in the paired row, and 48" between the paired rows.

For healthy plants, weed, fertilize and water for good production and disease resistance. Weed suppression is critical. After 3 weeks, eliminate the weeds and fertilize with 16-16-16, placed in a hole, 4" from the corn plant (Use 1 tablespoon = 1/2 oz = 1/2 film can). Repeat the weeding and fertilizing 3 weeks later. Mulching will restrict weeds and conserve soil moisture.

Enjoy the "corn" of your labor!

For more information contact the Saipan and Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District at (670) 256-3318 or the USDA-NRCS CNMI Field Office at (670) 236-0888, Fax: (670) 236-0889.



Get the Real Deal with No-Till

By Guam Field Office



This reputable partner has not only taken the lead in conservation, but demonstrates sound leadership through example. Mr. Wusstig continues his outreach efforts by identifying programs that help sell conservation on Guam.



Cover and Green Manure planting

In the recent past Ernie Wusstig, Chairman, Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District has experienced remarkable success with his No-Till farm operation.



No-Till Papaya field

Photos illustrate a few of the conservation activities implemented on Mr. Wusstig's Island View Farm.



No-Till Tomato field

Most recently, Mr. Wusstig was instrumental in participating with partners, which led to a viable Cover and Green Manure project for island farmers.



Mr. Jose Avila, a Saipan resident and client of USDA-NRCS, is nearing the final stage of his drip irrigation system. In 2003 he had installed the first phase of his irrigation system, a 10'x 10'x 6' Concrete Water Storage Tank. Like most areas being farmed in Saipan, water quality and quantity are sometimes unreliable for farming purposes. Once Mr. Avila completes the final stages of his drip irrigation system he will have an advantage over other farmers. One advantage would be that during the dry season when water quantity is limited he would still be able to deliver the constant amount of water needed without having to sacrifice time and effort. An irrigation schedule can be developed to manage and meet specific crop demands during these times when water quantity is limited and most needed. Drip irrigation will decrease water contact with crop leaves, stems, and fruit. Thus conditions may be less favorable for the onset of diseases. Irrigation systems also avoid water losses to evaporation, runoff, and wetting the soil below the root zone.

EQIP in the CNMI

By Jay Doronila, Soil Conservationist
Saipan Field Office

The drip irrigation system is designed to be part of an integrated conservation plan developed by NRCS with input from the client to control and address the soil, water, air, plant, animal, and human needs. NRCS clients develop and implement plans to protect, conserve, and enhance natural resources within their social and economic interests. Other practices that make up Mr. Avila's conservation plan are windbreaks, nutrient and pest management, contour farming, and irrigation water management.

Mr. Avila applied for a cost-share assistance program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) called the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP is a voluntary cost-share program that financially assists farmers and ranchers in implementing conservation practices that address local priority natural resource concerns on eligible agriculture land. With this financial assistance Mr. Avila can purchase irrigation parts, and pay for the installation of the other conservation practices to complete his conservation plan. What the USDA-NRCS hopes to accomplish from having farmers like Mr. Jose Avila implement these conservation practices on the land is to protect and conserve the natural resources around the island.



For more information contact the Saipan and Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District at (670) 256-3318 or USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service at (670) 236-0888, Fax (670) 236-0889.

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Outreach in the Pacific Basin



University of Guam Career Job Fair 2003

By Greg Yamanaka, Guam Field Office

The USDA-NRCS Pacific Basin Recruitment Team was in top form at the University of Guam's Career Job Fair, which was held on November 21, 2003. One hundred and thirty individuals visited the NRCS booth to learn more about careers in natural resources. This was an increase of 30% from last year's fair. Ten applications were submitted for the Student Career Experience Program, as well as another 10 applications for the Earth Team Volunteer program.

Our 2003 display focused on NRCS employees within the Pacific Basin Area, capturing a variety of career positions. The latest NRCS poster, "Protecting our Fish and Wildlife from Grassfires", and the new Earth Team poster, "Volunteers Mean the World To Us" were both displayed.

The recruitment team's success was attributed to each member's enthusiasm, dedication and excellent communications skills. 2003 team members were Joan Perry-Director, Jessica Pangelinan-Secretary, Jaquay Soriano-Student Trainee, Jenifer Coleson-Soil Conservationist, Ferdinand Castro-Cartographic Technician, and Greg Yamanaka-Outreach Coordinator.



Jessica Pangelinan, Secretary and Jaquay Soriano, Student Trainee, stand in front of NRCS display.



Several participants learn about careers in natural resources.



Printed information on various NRCS programs are distributed.



Jenifer Coleson, Soil Conservationist, explains NRCS program information.

Personnel Actions

Name	Action	Position	Location	Date
Flora Paulino	Appointment	Administrative Officer	PacBasin AO	9/21/2003
Jacquay Soriano	Temporary Appointment	Student Trainee (Soil Conservationist)	Guam FO	10/19/2003
Pona Ala	Transfer	Program Specialist USDA/Farm Services Agency (FSA)	American Samoa	11/02/2003
Peter Bautista	Relocation	District Conservationist	Guam FO	11/17/2003
Jenifer Coleson	Appointment	Soil Conservationist	Guam FO	11/17/2003
Barbara Aflague	Promotion	Public Affairs Specialist	PacBasin AO	11/30/2003
Antonette Tornito	Change in Work Schedule	Secretary (Full Time)	PacBasin AO	11/30/2003
Ferdinand Castro	Temporary Appointment	Cartographic Technician	NRI Office, Guam	12/14/2003
Jay Doronila	Promotion	Soil Conservationist	CNMI FO	01/11/2004
Antonette Tornito	Reassignment	Secretary	PacBasin AO	01/11/2004
Ian Gurr	Temporary Appointment	Soil Conservation Technician	Am. Samoa FO	01/25/2004
Kenneth Kramer	Promotion	Soil Conservationist	CNMI FO	02/22/2004



Awards & Best Wishes

On January 14, 2004, in recognition of their efforts to update and post the Pacific Basin webpage, Kurencio Ngowakl - Program Specialist, John "Bart" Lawrence - State Resource Conservationist, John Santos - IRM Computer Specialist, Jocelyn Bamba - Marianas RC&D Coordinator and Barbara Aflague - Public Affairs Specialist, were presented with NRCS Web Modernization Team t-shirts and Certificates of Appreciation for "Outstanding Performance and Lasting Contribution", which were signed by Chief Bruce Knight.



L-R: Joan Perry, John Santos, John Lawrence and Kurencio Ngowakl (not pictured: Jocelyn Bamba and Barbara Aflague)



L-R: Kurencio Ngowakl and Colleen Simpson

Kurencio Ngowakl, Program Specialist, and Colleen Simpson, Conservation Technology Specialist, were recognized for their service in support of conservation efforts for Southern Guam farmers. The presentation of awards took place during the Southern Soil and Water Conservation District regular monthly meeting in December, 2003, at SWCD Chairman's, Mr. Benny San Nicolas, farm. Various SWCD Members were in attendance. Along with the awardees, Joan Perry, Director of NRCS, Pacific Basin Area, was present to support the Southern Guam SWCD membership in recognizing the many years of service that both Colleen and Kurencio provided to Southern Guam farmers and ranchers. Congratulations to Colleen and Kurencio for this award!

Farewell & Best Wishes to Pona Ala!

By Wallace H. Jennings, District Conservationist
American Samoa Field Office



Pona Ala, Public Affairs Specialist in the American Samoa Field Office has spent the last few years working on publications and outreach for the American Samoa Field Office and the Pacific Basin. She compiled Pacific Basin Current Developments, formatted job sheets and created an invasive species booklet for American Samoa. Pona worked closely with Le Tausagi (a group of environmental educators) and the American Samoa Soil and Water Conservation District for outreach information and media events to promote their concerns and issues in natural resources. Pona created a watershed brochure for educational outreach in public schools, and has written many articles for the Samoa News. Pona's efforts helped provide conservation awareness and information to the community.

At the end of September, 2003, Pona accepted a position as a Program Specialist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA). Bitter and sweet, the Pacific Basin lost an employee but gained a new partner. Good luck & best wishes!

NEWS RELEASE

USDA ANNOUNCES NEW MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight has announced two new minority pilot scholarship programs that will be offered in 2004.

The new pilot Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Scholarship Program will offer scholarships to U.S. citizens who are seeking a degree in agriculture or related natural resource sciences at universities with high percentages of Asian and Pacific Islander students in California, Hawaii, Minnesota and the **Pacific Basin Area**. The new Tribal Scholarship Program pilot will have similar eligibility requirements and will be available to students at 1994 Tribal Land Grant Colleges.

Currently, NRCS participates in two USDA sponsored scholarship programs: the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program for students planning to attend an 1890 Historically Black Land Grant Institution and major in agriculture or natural resource related studies; and the Public Service Leaders Scholarship, which is a collaborative effort between USDA, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and the Hispanic College Fund, Inc.

These scholarship programs will provide full tuition, employment, employee benefits, fees, books, use of a personal computer and software while on scholarship, and room and board each year for up to four years. In addition to general eligibility criteria, each scholarship may have unique features due to differences in the target institutions or communities.

Information on the new scholarship programs will be available soon at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov> or from Larry Holmes, NRCS Outreach Division Director, larry.holmes2@usda.gov. Information on the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program can be viewed at <http://1890Scholars.program.usda.gov>. Information on the Public Service Leaders Scholarship can be found at:

<http://www.hsi.usda.gov/Scholars/main.htm>.

USDA PROVIDES \$3 MILLION FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT CORAL REEFS

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight has announced that \$3 million will be provided for innovative conservation projects on private land to improve water quality in watersheds that outlet to coral reef habitats. A special priority will be given to projects involving limited-resource farmers that reduce land-based impacts on coral reefs.

The funds will be made available to conservation districts, resource conservation and development areas, state and local governments, educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) 2004 Conservation on Private Lands matching grant program.

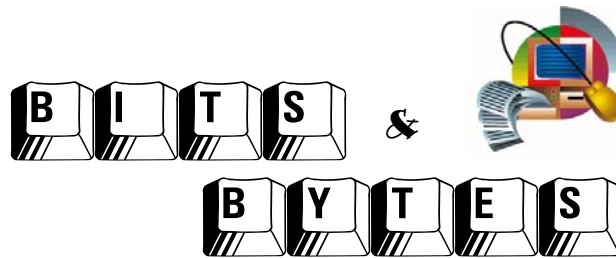
This marks the fifth year that NRCS has partnered with NFWF to support agricultural conservation on private lands. This year, the grant program will be expanded to include the **Pacific Basin** and Caribbean areas. NRCS and NFWF will reach out to limited-resource farmers and ranchers to help them reduce sediment and nutrient runoff.

The matching grants are awarded on a competitive basis. All federal funds are matched on a minimum 1:1 basis with one non-federal dollar matching every federal dollar.

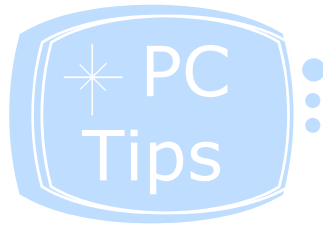
Detailed information on this grant program is available at:

http://www.nfwf.org/programs/grant_apply.htm

Click on "Natural Resources Conservation Service: Conservation on Private Lands." Information on the 2004 program may be obtained by contacting Howard Hankin, NRCS Ecological Sciences Division, (202) 690-0082 or via email at howard.hankin@usda.gov.



*By Carl Coon & John Santos
Information Technology Specialists
Pacific Basin Area Office*



Power Cords

Computers should be plugged directly into the UPS unit (back up battery). The UPS power cord should be plugged into a surge strip and the surge strip should be plugged into the wall outlet. Please contact your assigned IT Specialist should you need assistance in obtaining an UPS unit or surge strip.

McAfee VirusScan Updates

To manually update your PC you may perform the following steps:

1. RIGHT Click on the Viruscan SHIELD icon in the lower right of your screen (on the toolbar). When the menu pops up, LEFT click on the "Update Now..." option. You will see an Update in Progress... box initially, that will give an error. Disregard this box, it will go away within 30 seconds, after which a black DOS box will appear. This is the real updater, and will install the latest virus signatures, if you aren't already at the current level. Let the whole process run, until all boxes go away.
2. RIGHT Click on the Viruscan SHIELD again. When the menu pops up, LEFT click on the "About Viruscan Enterprise" option. Within the information box, look for the "Created on" date. Contact your assigned IT Specialist to obtain the current version dates.

Pacific Basin Logon/Logoff Procedures

Microsoft patches and virus updates are brought into our system through the network server. CCE folks process these updates on a continuous basis. It is recommended that you **leave your PC on during the work week (24 hours a day for 5 days)** to ensure your PC receives the most current updates. At the end of the day you can still log off your PC, just don't shut it down completely.

At the end of each work week (Friday for most of us) please shut down your workstation completely. If you have a laptop, please undock it and store it in a locked area. Cable locks should be used for all laptops to secure them during the work week. If you don't have one, contact your assigned IT Specialist for assistance.



2004 Marianas RC&D Council and Island Committee Meeting Schedule

Executive Board:	9:00 am	2 nd Wednesday of the Quarter
Rota:	10:00 am	2 nd Tuesday of the month
Tinian:	3:00 pm	3 rd week of the month
Guam:	7:00 pm	1 st Thursday of the month
Saipan:	10:30 am	3 rd Friday of the month

2004 Patrick Madden Award for Sustainable Agriculture

Do you know of a farmer or rancher who truly is outstanding in the field, on the range or at the farmers market? Do you find yourself pointing to this person again and again when you need an example of a truly "sustainable" producer?

USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program announces its second annual award for farmers and ranchers who raise food or fiber in ways that are profitable, good for families and communities, and beneficial to the environment.

Four regional winners will receive \$1,000 each and a travel scholarship to "Toward a Sustainable Food System," the SARE national/regional conference in Burlington, Vermont, October 19-21, 2004. All producers farming in the United States and its protectorates are eligible, except for previous winners and finalists. No self nominations allowed.

Please visit <http://www.sare.org/madden/> for criteria information or to nominate someone online. Nomination deadline is May 10, 2004.

Submit questions, comments and contributions to:

Barbara Aflague, Public Affairs Specialist
400 Route 8, Suite 301, Mongmong, GU 96910
Fax: (671) 472-7288 Email: barbara.aflague@pb.usda.gov

Pacific Basin Current Developments is published three times a year. Next issue deadline is June 1, 2004. Materials submitted may be edited for content, clarity and length.

NOPHNRCSE 11th Annual Training Conference

The National Organization of Professional Hispanic Natural Resources Conservation Service Employees (NOPHNRCSE), in conjunction with the Hispanic Employment Program Managers (HEPMs) will host their annual conference June 21-24, 2004 in Sacramento, CA. This year's theme is "Brining Diversity to the Nation's Conservation Needs". For more information please visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/hispanic/2004confinfo.html>

APIO 6th Annual Training Conference

The National Asian Pacific Islander Organization (APIO) NRCS Employees 6th Annual Training Conference will be held July 26-29, 2004 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The theme for this year's conference is "Striving for Excellence in Developing Leaders of Tomorrow". Please visit the APIO website: www.apio.org for additional information.

USDA Grad School Pre- Retirement Planning Course

The Graduate School, USDA will be providing a Pre-Retirement Planning Course in Guam, April 21 - 23, 2004 at the Guam Marriott Resort, Tumon (Course ID: BENE7002D). Tuition is \$545.00 per person. Spouses may attend free of charge.

Interested employees should submit requests to Charles Frear, Training Officer, upon approval of their immediate supervisor.

Please visit their website at: www.grad.usda.gov to register online, or to obtain additional course description.